

Amendments To The Claims

Claims 1-25 (withdrawn)

26. (previously presented) An apparatus for examining a particle in a flow stream of a flow cytometer, comprising:

a light emitting device comprising at least one incoherent light emitting semiconductor device, adapted to emit light toward said flow stream;

a detector, adapted to detect light emanating from said particle in response to said emitted light striking said particle; and

a light obstructing device, having a substantially opaque portion which is adapted to prevent a portion of said emanating light from being detected by said detector, and at least two substantially transparent portions which are adapted to permit another portion of said emanating light to pass to said detector for detection by said detector;

wherein one of said transparent portions of said light obstructing device is larger than the other of said transparent portions.

Claims 27-40 (canceled)

41. (previously presented) An apparatus for examining a particle in a flow stream of a flow cytometer, comprising:

a light emitting device comprising at least one light emitting diode, adapted to emit light toward said flow stream;

a detector, adapted to detect light emanating from said particle in response to said emitted light striking said particle;

a controller, adapted to control said light emitting diode to emit said emitted light in pulses; and

a light obstructing device, having a substantially opaque portion which is adapted to prevent a portion of said emanating light from being detected by said detector, and at least two substantially transparent portions which are adapted to

permit another portion of said emanating light to pass to said detector for detection by said detector;

wherein one of said transparent portions of said light obstructing device is larger than the other of said transparent portions.

Claims 42-51 (canceled)